

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P-2836-AL	FOR FURTHER ACTION <small>see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</small>	
International application No. PCT/US04/01584	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 20 January 2004 (20.01.2004)	(Earliest) Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 24 January 2003 (24.01.2003)
Applicant APPLIED MEDICAL RESOURCES CORPORATION		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 3 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the Report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.



The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ I.

With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box No. II)

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (See Box No. III)

4. With regard to the title,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1



as suggested by the applicant.



as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.



as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐

none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

Box IV TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of Item 5 of the first sheet)

The technical features mentioned in the abstract do not include a reference sign between parentheses (PCT Rule 8.1(d)).

The abstract is too long (PCT Rule 8.1(b)). The abstract must be less than 150 words, or 200 words when no figure is to be published.

NEW ABSTRACT

A positionable atraumatic internal retraction device (10) having a malleable ring member (15) and a web-like structure (60) is provided. The retraction device (10) operates to temporarily reposition tissues and organs from an operative site to provide clear access and a visual path to the surgeon during both open and minimally invasive surgery. The ring member (15) may be elongated, twisted, folded, bent or deformed to provide an appropriate insertion profile and subsequent functional shape. The ring member (15) may have different bending biases. The web-like structure (60) may be constructed of any elastic material that can stretch and recover from the shaping and reshaping of the ring member (15). In an embodiment, the ring member (300) has an internal lumen (305) defining a wall and a reinforcement member (315) placed within the lumen. The ring member (300), the reinforcement member (315) and the internal wall may have a cross-section or profile of any geometric shape to provide a desired bending bias in a preferred plane.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/01584

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 1/32

US CL : 600/206

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 600/206, 208, 209, 235, 184, 201

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,254,534 B1 (BUTLER et al) 03 July 2001 (03.07.2001), See figure 5, column 4, lines 12-67 and column 5, lines 1-40.	1-4, 6, 8-9 and 11
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Y		5, 7
Y	US 5,080,088 A (LEVAHN) 14 January 1992 (14.01.1992), See figure 1, column 2, lines 6-17 and lines 53-58.	5
Y	US 6,506,149 B2 (PENG et al.) 14 January 2003 (14.01.2003), See column 8, lines 53-65.	7

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T"

later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 August 2004 (16.08.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report

14 SEP 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US

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